



State of Wisconsin
Governor Scott Walker

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Ben Brancel, Secretary

April 22, 2011

Dear Potential Licensee:

On June 1, 2011 persons who sell 25 or more dogs from more than three litters in a year will need to have a license from the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection, Division of Animal Health (DATCP-AH) to legally operate. The Dog Seller and Dog Facility Operator license year is a 12 month period ending on September 30. For this initial year, however, DATCP –AH will issue a license to applicants whose applications are in order and fees paid that will be valid from date of issuance until September 30, 2012. These licenses will be issued on the condition that each location on the license passes inspection by September 30, 2012, the date the license expires. Hopefully, this will allow DATCP – AH to inspect all dog facilities and bring them into compliance with the new law before the start of the next license year on October 1, 2012.

Licenses are required if you do any of the following, as defined in Wis. Administrative Code, ch. ATCP 16:

- *Operate an “animal control facility.”* An “animal control facility” means a facility in this state, for the care of animals, which is operated under a contract with a county, town or municipality under s. 173.15(1), Stats. *(It may also sell dogs. It is not considered a dog dealer.)*
- *Operate an “animal shelter.”* An “animal shelter” means a facility in this state that is operated for the purpose of providing for and promoting the welfare, protection, and humane treatment of animals, that is used to shelter at least 25 dogs in a year, and that is operated by a humane society, animal welfare society, animal rescue group, or other nonprofit group. *(It may also sell dogs. It is not considered a dog dealer.)*
- *Operate as a “dog breeder.”* A “dog breeder” means a person who in any year sells at least 25 dogs, from more than 3 litters, which that person has bred and raised in this state.
- *Operate a “dog breeding facility.”* A “dog breeding facility” means a place in this state where dogs are bred and raised and from which at least 25 dogs from more than 3 litters are sold in a year.
- *Operate as a “dog dealer.”* A “dog dealer” means any of the following persons, other than an “out-of-state dog dealer:”
 - A person who in any license year sells in this state at least 25 dogs that the person owns but has not bred and raised.
 - A person, other than an auctioneer or auction company registered under Ch. 480, Wis. Stats., who in any license year brokers or arranges the sale in this state of at least 25 dogs that are under that person’s custody or control (but that the person does not own and has not bred or raised).

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- An auctioneer or auction company registered under Ch. 480, Wis. Stats., which operates one or more auctions in this state in which a combined total of 50 or more dogs are sold or offered for sale in any license year.
- *Operate in this state as an “out-of-state dog dealer.”* An “out-of-state dog dealer” means a non-resident person who in a year imports at least 25 dogs for sale in this state, regardless of whether the dogs were bred or raised by that person.

If you meet any of the above definitions please complete the enclosed application and submit it along with the appropriate fees to:

WI - DATCP
ATTN: Gena Goldade
PO Box 8911
Madison, WI 53708

Within 30 business days of receiving your complete application for licensure and the required fees, you will receive a temporary conditional license to operate. This temporary conditional license will allow you to operate legally until an initial inspection, as required under sec. 173.41(6)(a) Wis. Stats., can be completed of your facility. Once an inspection is completed that verifies the dogs that you keep are being kept in compliance with the standards of care established in ch. ATCP 16, your posted license will be changed to indicate that the initial inspection was passed. That license will expire on September 30, 2012. Inspection staff from DATCP-DAH will be contacting you to set up the initial inspection.

A copy of your license must be displayed in a prominent place at each location listed on the license, along with the inspection report for that location once completed.

If you have questions regarding this please contact Gena Goldade at 608-224-4889 or Gena.Goldade@wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,



Dr. Robert G. Ehlenfeldt
State Veterinarian
Division of Animal Health